

Generation of funds for IGNCA

2684. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Rs. 50 crore corpus fund given to the Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts (IGNCA) by the Central Government during its inception—a bone of contention during the take over—is being found to be "insufficient" to meet the expenses;

(b) if so, what are Government's views and response thereto; and

(c) whether Government are considering any proposal sent by IGNCA for generating funds?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Monuments under risk zone

2685. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Archaeological Survey of India has identified the monuments in different States which are in the risk zone in the event of earthquake;

(b) if so, the State-wise details of those monuments; and

(c) the steps taken to protect those monuments from any possible earthquake?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) to (c) In view of the wide difference in the antiquity, structural design and use of building material in the protected monuments, it is not possible to indicate their specific vulnerability to earthquakes. However action has been initiated to seek specific advice in this regard in respect of the World Heritage and other important monuments from specialised institutions.

Development of Lichhavi, Vaishali, Sitamarhi and Rajgir in Bihar

†2686. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government will develop Lichhavi, Vaishali, Sitamarhi and Rajgir in Bihar as national tourist centres;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) Development of tourist/pilgrim centres is primarily undertaken by the State Governments/U.T. Administrations. Department of Tourism, Government of India, however, provides financial assistance for selected tourism projects prioritised in consultation with them every year.

(b) and (c) 27 projects with Central component of Rs. 560.07 lakhs have been sanctioned in Bihar including Rajgir and Vaishali during the 1st three years of IX Plan.

Setting up of Information Centre at Shravanabelagola in Karnataka

2687. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have released any amount during the year 2000-2001 for developing Shravanabelagola in Karnataka as a tourist Centre;

(b) what are the facilities provided for domestic and foreign tourists at Shravanabelagola;

(c) whether there is any Information Centre functioning to promote tourism in Shravanabelagola; and

(d) if not, whether Government have any proposal to set up an Information Centre at Shravanabelagola?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) For the benefit of visiting domestic and foreign tourists, a Yatri Niwas has been constructed at Shravanabelagola and two units of public conveniences have been provided there.

(c) Tourist Information Centre has been opened by the State Tourism Department at Shravanabelagola and is functioning at the foothills of Indragiri.

(d) Does not arise.

Development of Tourism in Manipur

2688. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any comprehensive scheme for development of tourism in Manipur;